

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (Currently amended). A method for increasing the permeability of the blood brain barrier, comprising administering to a subject a composition comprising a nitric oxide synthase-3 regulating agent which is a nitric oxide synthase-3 activator or a nitric oxide donor in a manner by which the nitric oxide synthase-3 regulating agent is delivered in an amount effective to transiently increase the permeability of the blood brain barrier for a short duration, just sufficient for delivery of a therapeutic or diagnostic compound across the blood brain barrier.

Claims 2 and 3 (Cancelled).

4 (Currently amended). The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the administering step is to locally administer to a subject a composition comprising a nitric oxide synthase-3 regulating agent in an amount effective to transiently increase the permeability of the blood brain barrier for a short duration, just sufficient for delivery of a therapeutic or diagnostic compound across the blood brain barrier, with little or no exposure to the nitric oxide synthase-3 regulating agent outside of the local area of administration.

Claims 5 and 6 (Cancelled).

7 (Currently amended). The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the composition administered further comprises a neurologically active therapeutic compound or a diagnostic compound for delivery into the central nervous system following an increase in the permeability of the blood brain barrier for a short duration, just sufficient for delivery of said therapeutic or diagnostic compound across the blood brain barrier, as effected by the nitric oxide synthase-3 activator or nitric oxide donor.

8 (Currently amended). The method in accordance with claim 4, wherein the administering step contemporaneously administers a second composition comprising a neurologically active therapeutic compound or diagnostic compound for delivery into the central nervous system following an increase in the permeability of the blood brain barrier for a short duration, just sufficient for delivery of said therapeutic or diagnostic compound across the blood brain barrier, as effected by the nitric oxide synthase-3 activator or nitric oxide donor.

9 (Previously presented). A method for increasing the permeability of the blood brain barrier, comprising administering to a subject a composition comprising a nitric

oxide synthase-3 regulating agent which is a nitric oxide synthase-3 activator or a nitric oxide donor in a manner by which the nitric oxide synthase-3 regulating agent is delivered in an amount effective to transiently increase the permeability of the blood brain barrier, wherein the administering step administers to the subject a composition comprising a nitric oxide synthase-3 regulating agent associated with a targeting molecule specific for cells forming the blood brain barrier.

10(Original). The method in accordance with claim 9, wherein the targeting molecule is a ligand or an antibody molecule.

11(Original). The method in accordance with claim 9, wherein the cells to which the targeting molecule is specific are brain microvascular endothelial cells.

12(Original). The method in accordance with claim 9, wherein the administering step is systemic administration to a subject.

Claim 13 (Cancelled).

14(Previously presented). The method in accordance with claim 9, wherein the nitric oxide synthase-3 regulating agent is in association with both a targeting molecule and a neurologically active therapeutic compound for delivery into the

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central nervous system following an increase in the permeability of the blood brain barrier.

15(Previously presented). The method in accordance with claim 9, wherein the nitric oxide synthase-3 regulating agent is in association with both a targeting molecule and a diagnostic compound for delivery into the central nervous system following an increase in the permeability of the blood brain barrier.